

Annex: Accountability for 2030 Agenda implementation in Canada

Country	VNR Year	Description of good practice	Rationale
Argentina	2017	A Parliamentary Observatory of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations was created in the Honorable Chamber of Deputies of the Nation in February 2017.	Legislative oversight of 2030 Agenda implementation is good practice.
Belgium	2017	Belgium's National Sustainable Development Strategy calls for all relevant authorities to jointly report on their progress in implementing the SDGs twice per government term together with a dialogue with parliamentarians and nonstate actors. The aim of the reporting exercise is to jointly highlight the progress made, identify gaps and provide recommendations for future policy planning. The reporting prioritizes the element of dialogue with all relevant stakeholders in assessing progress, identifying gaps and creating recommendations. The Inter-Federal Statistical Institute , responsible for monitoring SDG implementation, created five working groups that engage in inter-federal follow-up and review processes.	Reporting by all levels of government on sustainable development according to a pre-determined is transparent and allows for regular engagement by non-states actors on progress.
Benin	2018	<p>Benin's Technical Steering Committee that supports 2030 Agenda implementation reports four times a year to the Steering Committee on SDG implementation. Every quarter, the Steering Committee, chaired by the Minister of State for Planning and Development, convenes and chairs a follow-up session. At the end of the session, the Minister of State reports to the Head of State in the Council of Ministers (before the end of the month) and receives instructions from the latter for improving the monitoring and evaluation of SDG implementation.</p> <p>At the end of each year, the General Directorate for Coordination and Monitoring of the SDGs prepares a progress report on the implementation and monitoring of SDG priority targets in Benin and submits it to the Chairman of the Steering Committee (Minister of State, in charge of Planning and Development) for examination and validation. The minister can then authorize its dissemination at the minister's initiative or after referring the report to the Head of State in the Council of Ministers.</p>	Setting a clear timetable for reporting demonstrates commitment to and transparency in follow-up and review processes.
Bhutan	2018	The Bhutan National Assembly took steps to ensure effective oversight of the SDGs. In the 9th session of Parliament in 2017, the National	Legislative oversight of 2030 Agenda implementation is good practice.

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		<p>Assembly adopted a resolution to embed SDG oversight into Parliamentary practice, helping to “institutionalize Parliamentary efforts towards social equity, women’s empowerment and good governance which formed the bedrock of democracy in Bhutan.” The resolution affirmed legislative oversight in ensuring the integration of SDG in the next five-year plan. A standing committee to engage on the SDGs was established and one day is allotted for SDG discussions per parliamentary session. The parliament aims to mobilise resources to facilitate its oversight role. The resolution also requires parliamentarians that travel for SDG-related trips to report on their visits in plenary.</p>	
Brazil	2017	<p>Brazil’s Municipal Vulnerability Atlas presents the Social Vulnerability Index. It can map exclusion and social vulnerability in 5,565 municipalities and maps the main metropolitan regions of Brazil.</p>	<p>Efforts to collect data and monitor progress at the local level promote local ownership and accountability for 2030 Agenda implementation.</p>
Canada	2018	<p>The City of Winnipeg has an initiative, Peg, that reports on community well-being. In collaboration with the United Way of Winnipeg, the International Institute for Sustainable Development developed Peg as Canada’s first community indicator system. Information is available through Peg to inform collective action on sustainable development.</p>	<p>Efforts to collect data and monitor progress at the local level promote local ownership and accountability for 2030 Agenda implementation.</p>
Denmark	2017	<p>The Danish government has committed to publish annual progress reports on 37 targets to parliament. The first progress report was presented in 2018. Every fourth year, the progress report will be replaced by a more comprehensive status report. This report will contain SDG-related initiatives and information on possible adjustments to the country’s action plan that supports 2030 Agenda implementation. Denmark committed to two further VNRs before 2030. Multi-stakeholder consultation is embedded in the process with the Ministry of Finance responsible for formal meetings with relevant stakeholders. One meeting will be held after the presentation of the annual progress report to review progress on the SDGs for all stakeholders.</p>	<p>Setting a clear timetable for reporting demonstrates commitment to and transparency in follow-up and review processes. Including opportunities for multi-stakeholder engagement supports an inclusive and participatory review process.</p>
		<p>Local Government Denmark is working with Statistics Denmark to integrate local monitoring on SDG achievement on their portal.</p>	<p>This approach support localization of the 2030 Agenda and local accountability processes.</p>

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		<p>In 2017, an All-Party Group For UN’s Sustainable Development Goals in the National Parliament was established. This 2030-Network works to raise awareness of the 2030 Agenda and promote the 17 SDGs as a priority for Denmark. The network meets several times throughout the year, organizes meetings with ministers and holds an annual multi-stakeholder forum. An advisory group has been established – the 2030-Panel – to support the All-Party Group. It includes 22 representatives from the private sector, civil society, unions, the consumers, academia, municipalities and other sectors.</p>	<p>Legislative engagement on the 2030 Agenda supports national ownership and promotes opportunities for accountability in implementation. Though the All-Party Group does not make formal decisions on legislation related to the 2030 Agenda, it is supporting a whole-of-society approach.</p>
Egypt	2018	<p>Egypt’s VNR report made use of a traffic light system to indicate progress on available indicators. While the report did not include all targets, information was available for a set of indicators in the analysis of each SDG. This included the type of indicator involved (according to United Nation’s tier classification of SDG indicators), current value, 2030 targets and a traffic light indicator of the direction of change on the indicator.</p>	<p>Providing an indication of trends on progress in VNR reports is good practice.</p>
Ethiopia	2017	<p>Sectors at all levels of government have responsibility for monitoring implementation on the 2030 Agenda. Reports are presented to the legislature as part of annual performance assessments. Federal government institutions submit on the 2nd Growth and Transformation Plan, including the SDGs, to the National Planning Commission at the end of each fiscal year to assess performance.</p>	<p>Setting a clear timetable for reporting demonstrates commitment to and transparency in follow-up and review processes. The use of existing systems reduces reporting burdens.</p>
Finland	2016	<p>Finland has a range of initiatives to promote whole-of-society engagement on follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda. The City of Helsinki has committed to submit a Voluntary Local Review in 2019. Finland’s Society’s Commitment to Sustainable Development is a voluntary initiative that allows stakeholders to declare their commitments to support sustainable development. The commitment includes a requirement for participants from government institutions, civil society, the private sector and others to report annually on the commitments that they have made. In addition, the government has supported an independent assessment. In 2019, an independent evaluation of Finland’s progress on sustainable development was</p>	<p>These initiatives support whole-of-society approaches to 2030 Agenda implementation particularly in terms of accountability at local levels and non-state actors. Independent assessments of progress also lend credibility to reporting and provide an opportunity for engagement with non-state actors.</p>

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		released. Commissioned by the prime minister’s office, the evaluation was conducted by research institutions with different ministries participating in a steering group.	
Germany	2016	Germany committed to report on the implementation status of its National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) every four years. Progress reports are also used to update the strategy’s content. Following the next regular progress report in 2020, Germany will submit to the HLPF in 2021. In addition, the national statistical office publishes an independent indicator report every two years.	Transparency on reporting processes is good practice, as well as ensuring an opportunity to review overall strategies for 2030 Agenda implementation.
		Germany supported civil society organizations in Vietnam to carry out an independent review of progress on 2030 Agenda implementation.	International development partners have a role to play in supporting capacity development and whole-of-society approaches to 2030 Agenda implementation in partner countries. Such support aligns with commitments under SDG 17 on partnerships for the goals.
Greece	2018	In Greece, the parliament contributes to follow-up and review through joint committee meetings. The joint meetings offer an opportunity to review progress on a regular basis, provide guidance on actions and work to mainstream the SDGs into legislation and policy frameworks. Progress reports are submitted to parliament on a regular basis for discussion and review in committee meetings with all political parties represented. Joint committees also debate and examine VNR reports before presentation at the United Nations High-level Political Forum.	Legislative engagement on the 2030 Agenda supports national ownership and promotes opportunities for accountability in implementation.
India	2017	India plans to use a dashboard to monitor and report on the SDGs. It will also conduct bi-annual reviews of implementation, working with state governments.	Setting a clear timetable for reporting demonstrates commitment to and transparency in follow-up and review processes. Including local governments supports localization.
Italy	2017	Italy has indicated that it will report its National Sustainable Development Strategy objectives on an annual basis.	Setting a clear timetable for reporting demonstrates commitment to and transparency in follow-up and review processes.

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Ireland	2018	Ireland's VNR report committed to national reporting every two years. The government also plans to submit VNR reports to the High-level Political Forum in 2022, 2026 and 2030. Over 2018–30, the government plans to produce seven national reports and four VNR reports.	Setting a clear timetable for reporting demonstrates commitment to and transparency in follow-up and review processes.
Jamaica	2018	Jamaica's Auditor General's Department is participating in the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions' initiative to support contributions by supreme audit institutions to 2030 Agenda implementation. The initiative includes 1) assessing national government preparedness for implementation, 2) carrying out performance audits; 3) contributing to SDG 16 in terms of supporting effective, accountable and transparent institutions; and 4) identifying ways in which supreme audit institutions can serve as models for transparency and accountability. Jamaica's supreme audit institution audited the government's preparedness to implement the 2030 Agenda.	Efforts by supreme audit institutions to audit 2030 Agenda implementation promote accountability.
Japan	2018	Voluntary Local Reviews are efforts by local governments to review their progress on 2030 Agenda implementation. Such reviews were prepared for Kitakyushu City , Shimokawa Town and Toyama City .	Efforts to review progress at the local level promote local ownership and accountability for 2030 Agenda implementation.
Latvia	2018	Latvia's VNR report statistical annex included a system to assess trends. A score of "1" (green) was allotted to indicators for which the trend fully complies with the SDG or is in line with progress towards the national development plan and the country's national SDG targets. A score of "0" indicates that there has been insignificant change, positive or negative. A score of "-1" (red) indicates a negative trend.	Providing an indication of trends on progress in VNR reports is good practice.
Laos	2018	Laos used a traffic light system to indicate progress on the Millennium Development Goal indicators in its VNR report . The report included infographics on progress for selected indicators in the analysis of each SDG. The statistical annex provided information the latest data for available SDG indicators, including information on data sources.	Providing an indication of trends on progress in VNR reports is good practice.
Lebanon	2018	A legislative institutional mechanism was established to follow-up and advance progress towards the SDGs in Lebanon. The parliamentary body has responsibility for undertaking a mapping of the legislation and existing strategies to examine alignment with the Agenda 2030.	Legislative engagement on the 2030 Agenda supports national ownership and promotes opportunities for accountability in implementation.

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		According to a civil society representative, although this initiative is a positive step to identify gaps and to take remedial steps to ensure that the legislation in Lebanon integrates the Agenda 2030, there is still a challenge of moving away from ad hoc efforts on the 2030 Agenda in Lebanon. In this regard, Lebanon still needs to adopt a comprehensive National Development Agenda.	
Mali	2018	The legislature adopted a resolution for the monitoring of the SDGs following a vote in 2015. It then set up a monitoring committee for the SDGs.	Legislative engagement on the 2030 Agenda supports national ownership and promotes opportunities for accountability in implementation.
Malta	2018	Malta has legislation that requires the legislature to hold a discussion without a vote on a Sustainable Development Annual Report. The report examines commitments on sustainable development.	Legislative engagement on the 2030 Agenda supports national ownership and promotes opportunities for accountability in implementation.
		Malta's Guardian for Future Generations has a legislated mandate to safeguard inter-generational and intra-generational sustainable development. The Guardian audits sectors that contribute to sustainable development and proposes actions that government institutions could take.	Integrating the 2030 Agenda into existing independent bodies promotes accountability.
Mexico	2018	In, Mexico's Senate established a Working Group for the Legislative Follow-up of the Sustainable Development Goals. The group has worked to raise awareness of the 2030 Agenda and train members of the legislative branch on the agenda.	Legislative engagement on the 2030 Agenda supports national ownership and promotes opportunities for accountability in implementation.
Netherlands	2017	The Kingdom of Netherlands launched its first SDG national annual report . The report includes, among others, an overview of activities conducted by diverse stakeholders (national and local governments, the private sector, the financial sector, civil society, academia, and youth organisations). During the preparation and review of the report, Members of Parliament organised a debate on the content of the report on Accountability Day 2017.	Legislative engagement on the 2030 Agenda supports national ownership and promotes opportunities for accountability in implementation. Regular and inclusive multi-stakeholder reporting on the 2030 Agenda is good practice.
Nigeria	2017	Nigeria has established legislative mechanisms to support 2030 Agenda implementation. A senate committee on SDGs was established and is	Legislative engagement on the 2030 Agenda supports national ownership and

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		responsible for coordinating oversight on the activities of the Sustainable Development Office in Nigeria, liaising with development and private sector partners, budgeting, and other matters related to the SDGs. The House of Representatives' Committee has members from each of Nigeria's six geopolitical zones and coordinates budget proposals in respect to SDGs and provides oversight of the broad implementation of the SDGs. It also creates opportunities for multi-stakeholder engagement.	promotes opportunities for accountability in implementation.
Paraguay	2018	Paraguay's supreme audit institution is assessing preparedness to implement specific SDGs. According to the VNR report , audits are currently being conducted in order to assess preparedness for 2030 Agenda implementation, and specifically, for SDG 2 on zero hunger, SDG 4 on quality education, and SDG 5 on gender equality.	Efforts by supreme audit institutions to audit 2030 Agenda implementation promote accountability.
Peru	2017	Peru committed to annual follow-up reports, introducing lessons learned, information about indicators and actions undertaken by stakeholders.	Setting a clear timetable for reporting demonstrates commitment to and transparency in follow-up and review processes.
Slovenia	2017	Slovenia's VNR report noted plans for annual reporting on the implementation of the country's Development Strategy.	Setting a clear timetable for reporting demonstrates commitment to and transparency in follow-up and review processes.
Spain	2018	Spain will report on an annual basis to its national legislature. The government plans to submit VNR reports to the United Nations High-level Political Forum in 2020–21, 2025 and 2030. The country's VNR report also noted the plan to creation of a Joint Parliamentary Committee to coordinate and monitor Spain's SDG Strategy. The government will provide periodic information on progress, including through an annual report that will be debated by the legislature.	Legislative engagement on the 2030 Agenda supports national ownership and promotes opportunities for accountability in implementation.
		In 2016, Spain launched the SDG Observatory in an attempt to monitor the implementation of the SDGs both domestically and internationally. As well, to raise awareness among the public on the transformative aspects of the SDGs, focusing on people and planet and exercising human rights under the framework of "leaving no one behind." The	Independent assessments of progress lend credibility to reporting and provide an opportunity for engagement with non-state actors.

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		observatory promotes participation of academic, university and scientific communities, is part of the Spanish network of observatories, plans to collaboration internationally, and will offer independent information on progress.	
Sri Lanka	2018	Sri Lanka established a legislative committee to support monitoring of the 2030 Agenda.	While the challenge still exists of raising awareness and improving capacities for members of the legislature to engage on the 2030 Agenda, the establishment of a dedicated committee supports national ownership and promotes opportunities for accountability in implementation.
		Sri Lanka's VNR report noted that the country's supreme auditing institution plans to incorporate the SDGs into the government's auditing process. The Auditor General's Department sent a questionnaire to public agencies to inquire about their SDG involvement.	Efforts by supreme audit institutions to audit 2030 Agenda implementation promote accountability.
		Sri Lanka's voluntary peoples review serves as an example of a comprehensive, inclusive civil society report of progress on the 2030 Agenda. The report is based on contributions from over 500 experts, activists and researchers as well as representatives of over 100 organisations. It includes a report card that assesses implementation of the SDGs through a traffic light system. It examines: awareness-raising and capacity to implement the SDGs (including for different stakeholders); institutional mechanisms and coordination; policy coherence and the national SDG framework; integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development; the science-policy interface; localising the SDGs; stakeholder engagement; means of implementation; and monitoring, review, reporting and follow-up mechanisms. The report also looks at the policy and enabling environment for implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the state of resilience and information on leaving no one behind.	Independent assessments of progress help to validate official reporting on progress and fill in information gaps. They also provide an opportunity for engagement with non-state actors.
Sweden	2017	The government reports on its Policy for Global Development, which includes reference to SDG implementation, to the legislature every two years.	Legislative engagement on the 2030 Agenda supports national ownership and

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			promotes opportunities for accountability in implementation.
Switzerland	2018	In the goal-by-goal analysis of Switzerland’s VNR report , the presentation of targets included a symbol to indicate the direction in which the country would like a particular indicator to move, a symbol indicating observed trends and a third symbol indicating whether the observed trend is positive, negative, unchanged or has no verdict.	Providing an indication of trends on progress in VNR reports is good practice
Thailand	2017	The legislature in Thailand established a sub-committee to monitor implementation of the 2030 Agenda. It is mandated to follow-up and promote the role of the legislature in supporting implementation.	Legislative engagement on the 2030 Agenda supports national ownership and promotes opportunities for accountability in implementation.
United State of America	2018	In 2018, New York City in the United States was the first city to submit a Voluntary Local Review to the United Nations. It developed a set of key performance indicators that are publicly reported on an annual basis. The city publishes two reports each year that provide insights into the indicators on which it reports. The city, the first to submit a Voluntary Local Review to the High-level Political Forum in 2018, tracks over 1,000 indicators that pertains to policies, government institutions and initiatives, including through the use of existing data and historic investments in a robust system for performance management. To ensure transparency, accessibility and accountability for sustainable development, New York City in the United States provides information context and explanations for outcomes on the indicators it reports, develops new indicators as needed to match corresponding initiatives, and has a Mayor’s Office of Data Analytics that centralizes data sharing and analysis, and ensures accessibility to open data.	Efforts to review progress at the local level promote local ownership and accountability for 2030 Agenda implementation.